

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-26 (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) An isolated DNA molecule which codes for a protein of the TGF- β family, wherein said protein has chondrogenic activity *in vivo* and comprises a sequence WIIAPLEYEAYHCEGVCDFPLRSHLEPTNHA. (SEQ ID NO:24) ~~W I (I/M/V) A P L (D/E) Y E A (Y/F/H) H C E G (L/V) G (D/E) F P L R S H L E P T N H A (SEQ ID NO:15), with the proviso that said sequence is not W I I A P L E Y E A F H C E G L C E F P L R S H L E P T N H A (SEQ ID NO:17).~~

28. (Previously added) An expression vector comprising the isolated DNA molecule of Claim 27.

29. (Previously added) A host cell transformed with the vector of Claim 28.

30. (Previously added) The host cell of Claim 29 wherein said cell is eukaryotic.

31. (Previously added) The host cell of Claim 30 wherein said cell is mammalian.

32. (Previously added) A process for the production of a protein of the TGF- β family comprising the steps of culturing the host cell of Claim 29 in a culture media, and isolating a protein of the TGF- β family therefrom.

33-40 (Withdrawn)